

Special Reaction Team

Commanders must provide an installation SRT capable of providing an enhanced response to developed threats in their area of responsibility within two hours of initial notification (see AR 190-52). The PM normally is responsible for organizing, training, equipping, and maintaining the SRT. The SRT is a specially trained team of military or security personnel armed and equipped to isolate, contain, gather information for, and, if necessary, neutralize a special threat. Specific missions and response capabilities are determined by the threat and availability of equipment and training time.

When major disruptions or special threats occur (to include acts of terrorism), resources must be committed in a graduated response to resolve the situation and restore law and order. SRTs are one of the commander's principal response forces in the event of a major disruption or special threat, and as such, are an integral part of an installation's security.

Some situations requiring SRT employment may include, but are not limited to—

- Barricaded criminals.
- Barricaded criminals with hostages.
- Sniper incidents.
- Counterterrorist operations.
- VIP protection (as a response force).
- Threatened suicide incidents.
- Barricaded, mentally disturbed persons.

During hostilities, SRTs may be required to perform similar missions in a combat environment.

SRT priorities during an incident are—

- Protecting lives, to include hostages, law enforcement personnel, bystanders, and suspects.

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- Securing the safe release of hostages.
- Isolating/containing the incident.
- Gathering information/intelligence. This is an ongoing responsibility from the beginning of an incident until its resolution.
- Protecting property/equipment.
- Preventing escape.
- Apprehending offenders.
- Conducting an assault (only if all other alternatives have been exhausted, no other assistance is expected, and a threat to human life exists).

These mission priorities apply in all special threat situations. They must be stressed, planned for, and given the necessary command emphasis to ensure success. However, during a special threat situation involving a nuclear weapon, recovery of the weapon is the overriding consideration (AR 50-5).

To successfully meet mission requirements, it may be necessary for the SRT or SRT member to replace or augment the initial responding MP on the inner perimeter around the affected site.

PMs must ensure commanders understand the limitations of SRTs. Training scenarios used to test and evaluate SRTs must be consistent with team purpose and missions. Post crisis management teams, controllers, evaluators, and observers must be aware of team limitations and those circumstances under which more qualified forces will assume responsibility for an incident.

US Army involvement in terrorism counteraction is limited by HN responsibilities, Department of Justice and Department of State authority, legal and political restrictions, and appropriate regulations. US Army support to civilian law enforcement agencies during civil disturbance operations is limited by DOD Civil Disturbance Plan (Garden Plot), 18 USC 1385 (Posse Comitatus Act), and applicable laws and regulations.

Each installation has unique needs as determined by a current threat analysis and the installation's vulnerabilities. A detailed threat analysis is essential to support the process of identifying the desired level of SRT response capability. On one end of the spectrum the threat analysis may reveal the existence of only a low-level external threat requiring a general SRT manpower/equipment response capability. At the upper end of the spectrum the threat analysis could indicate a sophisticated threat posed by groups having unique abilities and seeking specifically identified targets. This would require an SRT of highly trained personnel possessing specialized training and equipment. However, the need for SRT response capabilities cannot be based entirely on the external threat, but must be approached within the framework of the definition of special threats found in AR 190-52. Action is

taken to ensure that the installation and its personnel are prepared to meet any potential threat.

The knowledge and understanding of the existing threat is a viable tool essential to evaluating the installation's vulnerability. A survey outlining both the strong and weak points in an installation's ability to defend against a threat will assist commanders in training, equipping, and planning for the desired response levels for their SRTs. Available resources, materials, and personnel are factors that influence planning and establishing a workable SRT and initial response team. Resource availability will impact on the immediate SRT response capabilities. The long-range action is to plan for the unexpected, counter the threat, harden the installation's possible targets, and deal with special threats.

While the SRT will usually be the installation's response to special threats, consideration must be given to the requirement for an expanded response. Since it is impossible to predict the magnitude and peculiarities of incidents, installations identify, train, and equip personnel from outside existing MP assets to augment the initial response force. SRT actions in response to threats are determined by the EOC.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Command and control actions pertaining to SRTs are planned, coordinated, and directed by the EOC which is activated immediately when a special threat occurs. The TMF, the tactical element of the EOC, is drawn from installation resources that respond to major disruptions on the installation. The TMF commander, normally the installation PM or his representative, is the on-site commander and has operational control for all response forces. The TMF commander gathers and disseminates information/intelligence about

the incident and provides it to the EOC. Strategic planning decisions are developed at the EOC.

The TMF includes the initial response force, inner and outer perimeter security elements, SRT, negotiation team, and investigative team:

- The initial response force, normally on-duty law enforcement personnel, isolates, contains, and evaluates the incident, and provides the initial report to the PM.

- Inner and outer perimeter security elements secure the incident site, control access to the area, and provide security to the remainder of the installation.
- The SRT provides an enhanced response capable of controlling the situation. During initial employment, the SRT begins preliminary tactical planning to resolve the situation. (Rescue and assault missions are performed only under special circumstances.)
- The hostage negotiation team sets up direct communication with the perpetrators. Negotiations are conducted to further develop the situation for key decision makers.
- The investigative team investigates the incident while it is ongoing and concludes the investigation after the incident is resolved.

When selecting SRT personnel, the most qualified volunteers are those persons who—

- Have at least one year of military service as MP.
- Are in the pay grade of E4 or above.
- Are highly disciplined and morally sound.
- Are mature and able to handle pressure.
- Have passed the Army Physical Fitness Test.
- Have a minimum qualification of sharpshooter with assigned weapon.
- Possess individual special skills (that is, demolitions, emergency medical treatment, and the like).
- Have prior combat and/or small unit operations experience.
- Have prior law enforcement experience.
- Exhibit an ability to work with others.
- Possess good eyesight.
- Can be retained (one year recommended).
- Have had no derogatory data revealed during the background investigation.

Additionally, all volunteers considered for selection to SRTs are psychologically

screened before assuming their duties. This screening can be done through command channels without any adverse effects to individuals or their military careers.

A suggested SRT consists of not less than nine people. This team composition best conforms to and allows for the suggested rank requirements contained in most MP unit TOEs and TDAs.

Ideally, consideration is given to training one or two nine-man teams per installation. The goal is to have one SRT available at all times. Additionally, as situations dictate, it may become necessary to alert or employ more than one team and combine or augment teams to meet threats beyond the capabilities of one nine-man team.

SPECIAL REACTION TEAM

The suggested nine-man SRT composition is as follows:

ENTRY ELEMENT

- ☐ **ONE TEAM LEADER**
E6 or Above (Civilian Equivalent)
- ☐ **ONE POINTMAN**
E4 or Above
- ☐ **TWO DEFENSEMEN**
E4 or Above
- ☐ **ONE REAR SECURITY**
E4 or Above

COVER ELEMENT/SECOND ENTRY ELEMENT (If Needed)

- ☐ **TWO MARKSMEN**
E4 or Above
- ☐ **TWO OBSERVERS OR RECORDERS**
E4 or Above

It is critical to SRT functions that all team members be cross-trained in at least one alternative position within the team. The team leader must be familiar with all aspects of each member's duties.

SPECIAL REACTION TEAM DUTIES

TEAM LEADER

- ☐ Organizes and supervises an SRT.
- ☐ Coordinates planning, implementation, and training.
- ☐ Establishes SRT SOP. Records and logs all training that team receives.
- ☐ Acquires SRT equipment. Plans and executes assaults.
- ☐ Controls cover and entry elements.
- ☐ Determines special needs.
- ☐ Ensures team weapons and equipment are accounted for.

POINTMAN

- ☐ Conducts reconnaissance.
- ☐ Recommends primary and alternate routes of approach.
- ☐ Leads entry element during approach.
- ☐ Assists defenseman in security role.
- ☐ Carries any special equipment and employs pyrotechnics at the command of the team leader.

DEFENSEMAN

- ☐ Provides security for the pointman during movement.
- ☐ Acts as pointman when necessary and protects the entry element from ambush during approach and entry into the objective.
- ☐ Covers the entry element during withdrawal.
- ☐ Employs pyrotechnics at the command of team leader.

REAR SECURITY

- ☐ Provides rear security for the entry element during movement.
- ☐ Covers the entry element during withdrawal.
- ☐ Serves as second in command to team leader.
- ☐ Carries additional equipment as necessary.

MARKSMAN

- ☐ Maintains surveillance on the subject area from a fixed position.
- ☐ Provides intelligence and information to team leader while in the surveillance role.
- ☐ Neutralizes hostile fire with well-planned shots at command of team leader.
- ☐ Provides cover for the entry element during initial entry.

OBSERVER OR RECORDER

- ☐ Records all events prior to, during, and after the incident for use as evidence and information in the after-action report.
- ☐ Provides security for the marksman.
- ☐ Assists marksman in locating hostile personnel.
- ☐ Relieves marksman as necessary.
- ☐ Employs CS at the command of team leader.

EQUIPMENT

Selection of equipment used by SRTs is important to the total effectiveness of the team in accomplishing assigned missions.

Specific missions and response capabilities are partially determined by selection, availability, and assignment of equipment.

It is suggested that an SRT SOP, including an equipment list, be included as an annex to installation security plans. This action will assist in procuring and programming funds for SRT equipment not organic to the installation.

Equipment authorized by CTAs, TOEs, and TDAs is used to the maximum extent to equip SRTs. Additional government supply sources include Self-Service Supply Center, Training and Audiovisual Support Center (TASC), US General Services Administration (GSA) Supply Catalog, GSA Federal Supply Schedule, The Army Authorization Documents System (TAADS), and source selection advisory council (SSAC).

Local procurement or one-time purchases may initially be necessary to obtain some specialized equipment until appropriate authorization documents are revised. Equipment not listed in an authorization document at present, but required, is

identified and submitted for evaluation and approval to the US Army Military Police School, Directorate of Combat Developments, ATTN: ATZN-MP-CM, Fort McClellan, AL 36205-5030, using DA Form 2028 in accordance with AR 310-34.

Individual equipment such as load bearing equipment, heavy body armor, survival vests, and the like, is determined by the commander using common sense, careful analysis of the opposing threat, and specific mission assignment. The basic suggested SRT uniform is composed of—

- Work gloves with liners.
- Battledress uniform (BDU).
- Cap, woodland pattern (BDU).
- Brown T-shirt.
- Black combat boots.
- Lightweight body armor.
- Eye protection.
- Hearing protection.

SRT COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

ITEM	NSN/LIN	AUTH DOCUMENT/REF SOURCE
Telephone set TA 312	V31211	MTOE/TDA
Disposable cable MX-6895/TT (specify number of feet)	3895-00-089-7279 G18575	MTOE/TDA
Commercial hand-held radios with secure/securable capability surveillance package	NA	MTOE/TDA

The equipment listed is intended to assist commanders in identifying and procuring equipment tailored for the installation SRT. Communications equipment may be added or deleted based upon current analysis information. Communications equipment organic to the installation is used to the maximum extent. All commercial radio equipment is required by AR 530-2 to be secure or securable. Most tactical radio systems have this capability. The commercial radio listed is endorsed by the National Security Agency as meeting regulatory requirements. SRTs should be assigned a dedicated operating frequency.

SRT EQUIPMENT

ITEM	NSN/LIN	AUTH DOCUMENT/REF SOURCE
Light, safety	6260-00-106-7478	CTA 50-970
Luminous tape, reflective barricade	NA	Federal Supply Schedule 93-II
Camera set SP KS-99C, 35-mm	6720-00-602-5099 C85494	TASC
Gloves, leather	8415-00-268-7870 J68064	CTA 50-900
Portable PA system	NA	TASC
Goggles, protective	4240-00-816-3819	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Hearing protection	NA	Commercial purchase
Tape recorder	NA	TASC
Manhole hook	NA	Commercial purchase Unit made/TASC
BDU	Basic issue	CTA 50-900
BDU cap	Basic issue	CTA 50-900
Boots, black combat	Basic issue	CTA 50-900
Lightweight body armor	80592N 80593N	CTA 50-900
Mask chemical-biological without hood	4240-01-143-2017 M11895	TAADS/MTOE
Disposable handcuffs	NA	Commercial purchase
Work gloves with liners	8415-00-268-7859 J67379	CTA 50-900
Watch, wrist	6645-00-066-4279 Y34027	TAADS
Knife, pocket	5110-00-526-8740	GSA Supply Catalog SSAC, CTA 50-970
Flashlight, with red lens	6230-00-161-6422	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Tape, pressure sensitive	7510-00-266-6710	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Mirror, inspection	5120-00-618-6901	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Wedge, door	5340-00-907-8277	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970

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SRT EQUIPMENT—CONTINUED

ITEM	NSN/LIN	AUTH DOCUMENT/REF SOURCE
Case, first-aid	8465-00-935-6814 D64043	CTA 50-900
White chalk	7510-00-223-6706	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
3-inch by 5-inch index cards	NA	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Load bearing vest (pilots)	88853N	CTA 50-900

The equipment listed is intended to assist commanders in identifying and procuring equipment tailored for the installation SRT. Team equipment may be added or deleted based upon current analysis information. Selection of items should be the responsibility of the SRT leader.

SRT ENTRY EQUIPMENT

ITEM	NSN/LIN	AUTH DOCUMENT/REF SOURCE
Ladder, straight (8 feet)	5440-00-242-7151	CTA 50-970
Hammer, sledge (10 pounds)	5120-00-243-2957	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Hammer, hand	5120-00-892-5485	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Cutter, bolt, rigid, heavy duty	5110-00-596-9156	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Bar, wrecking	5120-00-242-0762	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Axe, single bit	5110-00-293-2336	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Cutter, glass	5110-00-222-4400	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Grapple hook	NA	Commercial purchase
Rope, fibrous nylon 600 feet, 1/2 inch	4020-00-968-1357	GSA Supply Catalog CTA 50-970
Snaplinks (locking)	NA	Commercial purchase
Rappelling harness	83421N	CTA 50-900

The equipment listed is intended to assist commanders in identifying and procuring equipment tailored for the installation SRT. Most of this equipment can be purchased through GSA Supply Center. Entry equipment may be added or deleted based upon current analysis information. The rope identified is primarily for rappelling and fabrication of rappelling seats.

SRT WEAPONS

ITEM	NSN/LIN	AUTH DOCUMENT/REF SOURCE
Pistol, .45-caliber automatic (M1911A1)	1005-00-726-5655 N96741	AR 310-34
Revolver, .38-caliber special, 4-inch	1005-00-214-0934 R91244	AR 310-34
Pistol, 9-mm semiautomatic (M9)	1005-01-118-2640 P98152	AR 310-34
Rifle, 5.56-mm (M16A2)	1005-00-073-9421 R94977	AR 310-34
Rifle, 7.62-mm sniper (M21)	1005-00-179-0300 R95422	AR 310-34
Launcher, grenade, 40-mm (M203)	1010-00-179-6447 L44595	AR 310-34
Shotgun, 12-gage riot, 20-inch barrel	1005-00-921-5483 T39223	MTOE/TDA
Shotgun (M520-30)	1005-00-677-9130 T39223	MTOE/TDA
Shotgun (M620A)	1005-00-677-9140 T39223	MTOE/TDA
Shotgun, pump (MOD 1200)	1005-00-921-5483 T39223	MTOE/TDA

The weapons listed are available for use by SRTs and are organic to most TOE units. Weapons and weapons systems organic to the organization responsible for SRT are used to the maximum extent possible. When the 9-mm pistol is fielded it will replace both the .45-caliber pistol and the .38-caliber revolver.

SRT WEAPON ACCESSORIES

ITEM	NSN/LIN	AUTH DOCUMENT/REF SOURCE
Telescope (M49) with equipment	6650-00-530-0960 V35477	MTOE/TDA
Binoculars (M17A1)	6650-00-530-0974 B67218	MTOE/TDA
Night vision (AN/PVS-2B)	5855-00-760-3869 N04730	MTOE/TDA
Night vision goggles (AN/PVS-5)	5855-00-150-1820 N04456	MTOE/TDA
Infrared aiming light (AN/PAQ-4) (must be used with AN/PVS-5)	5855-01-107-5925 A34938	MTOE/TDA
Pouch, ammunition, with speed loader	Weapon dependent	MTOE/TDA

SRT CONFIGURATION AND SUGGESTED WEAPON ASSIGNMENTS**ENTRY TEAM****TEAM LEADER**

.45-caliber (M1911A1) or
.38-caliber revolver
(9-mm [M9] pistol when fielded)
Rifle (M16A2) or 12-gage shotgun

POINTMAN

.45-caliber (M1911A1) or
.38-caliber revolver
(9-mm [M9] pistol when fielded)
Rifle (M16A2) or 12-gage shotgun

DEFENSEMAN

.45-caliber (M1911A1) or
.38-caliber revolver
(9-mm [M9] pistol when fielded)
Rifle (M16A2) or 12-gage shotgun

DEFENSEMAN

.45-caliber (M1911A1) or
.38-caliber revolver
(9-mm [M9] pistol when fielded)
Rifle (M16A2) or 12-gage shotgun

REAR SECURITY

.45-caliber (M1911A1) or
.38-caliber revolver
(9-mm [M9] pistol when fielded)
12-gage shotgun

COVER TEAM**MARKSMAN**

.45-caliber (M1911A1) or
.38-caliber revolver
(9-mm [M9] pistol when fielded)
7.62-mm sniper rifle (M21)

OBSERVER

.45-caliber (M1911A1) or
.38-caliber revolver
(9-mm [M9] pistol when fielded)
40-mm grenade launcher (M203)

MARKSMAN

.45-caliber (M1911A1) or
.38-caliber revolver
(9-mm [M9] pistol when fielded)
7.62-mm sniper rifle (M21)

OBSERVER

.45-caliber (M1911A1) or
.38-caliber revolver
(9-mm [M9] pistol when fielded)
40-mm grenade launcher (M203)